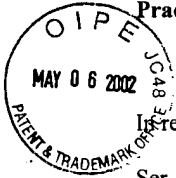


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Practitioner's Docket No.: 791_167

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Toshikazu HIROTA, Takao OHNISHI

Ser. No.: 09/977,567

Art Unit: 1743

Filed: October 15, 2001

Examiner: Not Assigned

Confirmation No.: 2012

For: MICROPIPETTE, DISPENSER AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING BIOCHIP

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
with the United States Postal Service as first class mail
addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington D.C. 20231, on December 12, 2001.

Tara L. Preston
Tara L. Preston

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

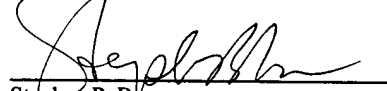
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is
hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of each of
the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are attached.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in
the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully
requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this
application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the
"References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 2 -

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen P. Burr
Reg. No. 32,970

December 12, 2001

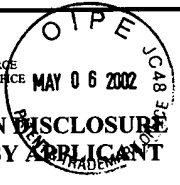
Date

SPB/tlp

BURR & BROWN
P.O. Box 7068
Syracuse, NY 13261-7068

Customer No.: 025191
Telephone: (315) 233-8300
Facsimile: (315) 233-8320

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Form PTO-1449 US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/977,567
				Filing Date	October 15, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Toshikazu HIROTA
				Art Unit	1743
				Examiner Name	Not Assigned
				Confirmation No.	2012
				Attorney Docket No.	791_167
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation	Abstract
	AA	59178258-A	10/9/1984	Japan				✓
	AB	03101960 A	4/26/1991	Japan				✓

OTHER DOCUMENTS
(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages etc.)

Examiner:		Date Considered:	
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.